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General Assembly

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Sixtieth session
Sixth Committee

Organization of work

Note by the Secretariat

1. In order to assist the Sixth Committee in the organization of its work, the Secretariat finds it appropriate, in the light of General Assembly resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963 and 32/71 of 9 December 1977 and of rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to draw the attention of the Sixth Committee to the following.

Items allocated to the Sixth Committee

2. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2005, the General Assembly allocated 11 items to the Sixth Committee. The list of those items, organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization in the medium term plan (2002-2005), is contained in the letter dated 21 September 2005 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Sixth Committee (A/C.6/60/1).

Documentation relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee

3. The following table lists the documents of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee. It includes references to the reports of commissions or committees and the reports that are to be submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions or decisions of the Assembly at preceding sessions, as well as to the documents circulated under the agenda items allocated to the Sixth Committee,[1] in accordance with requests of Member States.

[1] The figure in brackets after the title of each item indicates its number on the agenda of the sixtieth session. The list of documents is based on information available as at 21 September 2005.

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	Projected date of issuance
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [78]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/60/...)	End of October
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-eighth session [79]	
Report of the Commission, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/60/17)	End of September
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-seventh session [80]	
Report of the Commission, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/60/10)	End of September
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [82]	
Report of the Special Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/60/33)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* (A/60/124)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to Third States affected by the application of sanctions (A/60/326)	Early October
Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel [83]	
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 52* (A/60/52)	Issued
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [108]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/60/228)	Early October
Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in preventing and combating terrorism (A/60/164)	Issued

	Projected date of issuance
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/60/37)	Issued
Letter dated 3 August 2005 from the Chairman of the Sixth Committee addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/59/894)	Issued
Letter dated 1 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/60/329)	Issued
Letter dated 13 July 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/60/129)	Issued
Letter dated 6 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/60/336)	Issued
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [153]	
Report of the Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/60/26)	Early November
Observer status for the Latin American Integration Association in the General Assembly [155]	
Letter dated 15 July 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/60/141)	Issued
Observer status for the Common Fund for Commodities in the General Assembly [156]	
Letter dated 18 July 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/60/191)	Issued
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [116] (adoption of a provisional programme of work for the sixty-first session) (resolution 58/316, annex, para. 3 (h))	No advance documentation required
Election of the officers of the Main Committees	No advance documentation required

Date for concluding the work of the Committee, order and approximate dates of consideration of items

4. Rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that:

> "Each Main Committee, taking into account the closing date for the session fixed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the General Committee, shall adopt its own priorities and meet as may be necessary to complete the consideration of the items referred to it. It shall at the beginning of the session adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item."

5. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/316 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, the Sixth Committee, at its 28th meeting during the fifty-ninth session, adopted a provisional programme of work for the sixtieth session, which was subsequently placed on the website of the United Nations. The following programme has been prepared on this basis taking into account the allocation of items by the General Assembly at its 17th plenary meeting.

6. At the same meeting, the General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the General Committee, fixed the target date of 9 November for the completion of the work of the Sixth Committee (A/60/250, para. 14), which has also been taken into consideration in the preparation of the following work programme.

	Approximate dates of consideration
Sixth Committee (organization of work)	3 October
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-eighth session [79]	3-4 October
Observer status for the Latin American Integration Association in the General Assembly [155]	4 October
Observer status for the Common Fund for Commodities in the General Assembly [156]	4 October
Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of the United Nations and Associated Personnel [83] (working group)	4, 5 and 7 October
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [108]	6, 7 and 10 October
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [108] (working group)	10-12 and 14 October
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [82]	14, 17 and 18 October

	Approximate dates of consideration
Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel [83]	19 October
In reserve	20 October
Measures to eliminate international terrorism (report of the working group) [108]	21 October
Report of the International Law Commission [80]	24 October-3 November
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [78]	7 November
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [153]	9 November
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [116] (adoption of a provisional programme of work for the sixty-first session) (resolution 58/316, annex, para. 3 (h))	9 November
Election of the officers of the Main Committees	

Establishment of working groups and holding of consultations

7. Concerning agenda item 83, "Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel", the General Assembly, in its resolution 59/47 of 2 December 2004, requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its sixtieth session on the measures taken to implement the resolution. It further decided that the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Scope of Legal Protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel would continue during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee". In the light of the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee, as contained in paragraph 50 of its report,[2] as well as the provisional programme of work, 4, 5 and 7 October have been reserved for that purpose.

8. Concerning agenda item 108, "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", the General Assembly, in its resolution 59/46 of 2 December 2004, decided that the work of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 should continue, if necessary, during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee. In the light of the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee, as contained in paragraph 18 of its report,[3] as well as the provisional programme of work, 10 to 12 and 14 October have been reserved for this purpose.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 52* (A/60/52).

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/60/37).

9. In view of the limited conference services available to the Sixth Committee, as indicated in paragraph 11 below, any meetings for working groups or for informal consultations would have to be accommodated in place of, rather than in addition to, meetings allocated to the Committee.

Deadline for submission of draft resolutions with financial implications

10. According to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, "no resolution involving expenditure shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General". It is therefore imperative that the Sixth Committee allow sufficient time for the preparation of the estimates of expenditure by the Secretariat and for its consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and by the Fifth Committee. As 9 November has been fixed as the concluding date for the work of the Sixth Committee (see para. 6 above), 28 October 2005 would have to be considered the mandatory deadline for submission to the Fifth Committee of draft resolutions with financial implications.

Conference resources available

11. The available conference facilities will, in principle, enable the Committee to hold no more than 6 to 8 plenary meetings per week and the working groups referred to in paragraphs 7 and 8 above to hold 4 meetings for the week. Morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and afternoon meetings from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., except for the final week of the month of Ramadan, from 31 October to 4 November. In compliance with the General Assembly decision at its 17th plenary meeting, the Committee's meetings in that period will be held in the morning from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and in the afternoon from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., at the latest.

12. In order to avoid difficulties in the organization of services for the meetings of regional groups of the Committee, it is suggested that all requests for such meetings be channelled to the Planning and Meetings Servicing Section through the Secretary of the Committee.